

F-O-R O-F-F-I-C-I-A-L U-S-E O-N-L-Y

CODIR-D-72
16 January 1961

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTATION

RCA Video File Presentation

1. Arrangements have been made with the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) for presentation of their Video File, an automatic high capacity filing system. The storage medium is transverse-recorded magnetic tape, i.e., electrical signals rather than images are stored. Input is by electro-optical techniques and is essentially non-mechanical. Printout uses related electro-optical tools, in combination with Electrofax.

2. A company brochure states that the following features are of greatest interest:

- Any desired number of copies of a given stored document can be produced without tying up the main file any longer than for a single copy.
- Resolution can be tailored to fit the requirements at hand, i.e., tradeoffs can be made flexibly between packing density in the file and sharpness of the output copy.
- Addenda to any document in the file can be inserted without disturbing the rest of the file.
- Video File is admirably adapted to remote interrogation and remote readout; thus dispersed systems would find it particularly applicable.
- Each item in the file carries with it coded information so that in combination with a computer facility it can carry out automatic high speed search at any desired level of sophistication.
- The associated computer can batch look-ups so as to increase further the volume of business handled per hour.

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3. Date, time and place of the presentation will be Thursday, 9 February 1961, at 1000 hours in CIA's East Building Conference Room. Please call the names of prospective attendees to the Secretary by 3 February.

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Secretary

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